

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOUREN 00772 181514Z

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, SCUL, SEDU, MZ

SUBJ: PROF. DOUGLAS WHEELER

REF: LISBON 3990 (NOTAL)

1. CONSUL GENERAL AND PAO HAVE ATTEMPTED DISCUSS ADVISABILITY OF WHEELER VISITING MOZAMBIQUE AT PRESENT TIME WITH RECTOR GERNANDO GANHAO. HOWEVER, RECTOR IS SPENDING MOST OF JULY OUTSIDE L.M. VISITING STUDENT "WORK BRIGADES" SENT TO BOONDOCKS IN MONTH-LONG CAMPAIGN TO APPLY EDUCATION TO PRACTICAL PROBLEMS, HELP STAMP OUT "ELITISM" AND GET CLOSE TO THE "POVO." GANHAO WAS IN L.M. THIS WEEK BUT COULD NOT BE REACHED BY TELEPHONE AND DID NOT CALL US BACK BEFORE LEAVING FOR NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE ON JULY 18.

2. RECTOR'S SECRETARY INFORMS US WHEELER'S TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY RECTOR AND INTERVIEW HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR AUGUST 6 IN RECTOR'S OFFICE. SHE INFERS THIS MEANS RECTOR HAS INFORMED APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES THAT WHEELER IS COMING FOR JULY 24 - AUGUST 8 PERIOD MENTIONED IN LATTER'S TELEGRAM. THIS MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT BE SO. THERE IS INCREDIBLE DISORGANIZATION IN THE GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS AT THE UNIVERSITY THESE DAYS AND WE ARE NOT AT ALL CONFIDENT THAT RECTOR TOUCHED THE NECESSARY BASES.

3. IF IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WHEELER POSTPONE ARRIVAL UNTIL RECTOR IS DUE BACK (AUG. 5), I WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND IF FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

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1) OFFICIAL AMERICAN STILL IN LIMBO IN ABSENCE OF AGREEMENT
TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND FOREIGN MINISTRY
REPORTEDLY WILL NOT BE IN BUSINESS UNTIL AUGUST 4.

2) AT LEAST ONE U.S. CITIZEN (A MISSIONARY) WAS GRANTED
AIRPORT VISA BUT LATER PICKED UP FOR QUESTIONING AND GIVEN
24 HOURS TO GET OUT OF MOZAMBIQUE. WE CAN OBTAIN AN AIRPORT VISA
BUT U.S. VISITORS ARE SOMEWHAT SUSPECT UNLESS THEY HAVE
BUSINESS HERE REGARDING WHICH THEY HAVE MADE PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS
WITH APPROPRIATE HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

3) ARRIVAL PRIOR TO RECTOR'S RETURN MIGHT JEOPARDIZE
WHEELER'S PROJECT BY GETTING OFF ON WRONG FOOT.
WALKER

NOTE BY OC/T: REFERENCE LISBON 3990 NOT IDENTIFIED.

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